

From: Gary L. Withrow
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/7/01 11:58pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

First off, let me say that I wouldn't want your job for anything! I've worked for government for most of my adult life and I know a lot of bright people who work for government and none of them would want the job of trying to defend this settlement as justice.

Microsoft lied in open court when they (Jim Alchin) testified that the video he was presenting to the court was proof that uninstalling Internet Explorer...

(you know the rest or can read it in the court transcripts)

If I did anything like that in federal court I would be facing perjury charges as fast as the ink could dry, this settlement doesn't even fine Microsoft for court costs. People, there is no way that this settlement looks like you did your job. Talk about snatching defeat from the jaws of victory.

Review Microsoft's compliance with the original consent decree, how do you figure this private commission who can't even talk about their deliberations are going to get it done?

I could go on and on without taking an unreasonable position on why this settlement is not in the public interest. By now you have hopefully heard from enough people, enough reasons why this should not be approved. Microsoft deliberately and repeatedly has shown nothing but contempt for the judicial system that has convicted them of monopoly and upheld that conviction by a unanimous vote on appeal.

Do the right thing here, punish them for what they have been convicted of and make it sufficient to deter them from similar conduct in the future.

Thank you,
Gary